Washington Long Term Care Environmental Scan Topic Areas

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The Lewin Group

Overview of the Environmental Scan

Purpose:

◆ To examine Washington's current long term care service delivery, financing, and quality assurance system

Objectives:

◆ To assess strengths/weaknesses, identify significant gaps, and determine areas of further analysis to inform recommendations for addressing the gaps

Organizing Framework:

◆ Access

◆ Financing

◆ System Infrastructure (Quality, IT, Coordination)

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Area 1: Access to Long Term Care

Potential Topics:

- Entry points into the LTC system/referrals
- Eligibility for state and federal programs – financial and programmatic
- Enrollment and waiting lists
- Assessment and care planning – automation, linkages to acuity levels and provider reimbursement
- Coordination of support services
- Range of services available across populations and settings
  - Ranging from personal care to transportation

Area 1: Access to Long Term Care (cont'd)

Potential Topics:

- Provider capacity, especially in rural areas of the State
  - Provider recruitment and retention
- Affordable residential alternatives
- Use of individual providers
- Consumer-directed care/self determination options
- Support to families/informal caregivers

Area 2: Financing Long Term Care

Potential Topics:

- Expenditures, Medicaid financing and federal matching funds

- Rate setting

- Managed care, capitation

- Cost-sharing

- Impact of uninsurance rates

- Prior authorization and utilization review

- Use of consolidated budgets

Area 3: System Infrastructure

Potential Topics:

- Quality assurance, oversight and performance monitoring
- Staff, provider and consumer compliance standards
- Information technology and MIS
- Consumer participation
- Agency and program coordination/integration
- Key strengths/innovative aspects of current system

Populations who might need LTC services

Including, but not limited to:

- Persons over age 65
- Persons with physical disabilities
- Persons with developmental disabilities (e.g., MR/DD, Alzheimer's, traumatic brain injury)
- Persons with mental illness

Special subpopulations of interest include:

- Persons who are employed
- Ethnic and racial minorities
- Residents of rural areas

Implementation of Environmental Scan

Need to Decide:

- Critical topic areas

- Geographic regions to use (i.e., DSHS regions, MSAs, ?)

- Available resources (i.e., existing and new data, Task Force and Advisory Groups, key state informant interviews)

- Timeframe